

In re Patent Application of:  
**VAIL ET AL.**  
Serial No. 09/991,559  
Filing Date: NOVEMBER 9, 2001  
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In the Claims:

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Cont'd

1. (Currently amended) A temperature sensor comprising:  
a capacitor;  
a circuit element coupled in series with said capacitor and having a resistance that varies with temperature; ~~and~~  
a plurality of calibration resistors coupled to said capacitor and having different resistance values; and  
~~a controller for charging said capacitor through said circuit element, measuring a charging time required to charge said capacitor to a predetermined threshold, and determining a temperature based upon the charging time~~  
sequentially charging said capacitor through said circuit element and each of said calibration resistors, measuring respective charging times required to charge said capacitor to the predetermined threshold through said circuit element and said calibration resistors, and  
determining the temperature based upon the charging times.

2. (Original) The temperature sensor of Claim 1 wherein said circuit element comprises a thermistor.

Claim 3 (Cancelled).

4. (Currently amended) The temperature sensor of Claim 1 wherein said ~~at least one calibration resistor~~ plurality of calibration resistors comprises a high calibration resistor

In re Patent Application of:  
**VAIL ET AL.**  
Serial No. 09/991,559  
Filing Date: **NOVEMBER 9, 2001**

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and a low calibration resistor, said low calibration resistor having a lower resistance value than said high calibration resistor.

5. (Original) The temperature sensor of Claim 1 wherein said controller comprises a counter for measuring the charging time.

6. (Original) The temperature sensor of Claim 1 wherein said controller comprises a driver coupled to said circuit element for charging said capacitor.

7. (Original) The temperature sensor of Claim 6 wherein said controller further comprises a control logic circuit for controlling said driver.

8. (Original) The temperature sensor of Claim 1 wherein said controller comprises a Schmitt hysteresis device coupled to said capacitor for determining when said capacitor has been charged to the predetermined threshold.

9. (Original) The temperature sensor of Claim 1 wherein said controller is implemented in an ASIC.

Claims 10-18 (Cancelled).

19. (Currently amended) A temperature sensor comprising:  
a capacitor;

In re Patent Application of:

**VAIL ET AL.**

Serial No. 09/991,559

Filing Date: **NOVEMBER 9, 2001**

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a thermistor coupled in series with said capacitor;  
~~at least one calibration resistor coupled to said~~  
~~capacitor; and~~

a high calibration resistor coupled to said capacitor;  
a low calibration resistor coupled to said capacitor  
and having a lower resistance value than said high calibration  
resistor; and

A2  
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a controller for sequentially charging said capacitor  
through said thermistor and each of said ~~at least one~~ high and  
low calibration resistor resistors, measuring respective charging  
times required to charge said capacitor to a predetermined  
threshold through said thermistor and each of said ~~at least one~~  
high and low calibration resistor resistors, and determining a  
temperature based upon the charging times.

Claim 20 (Cancelled).

21. (Original) The temperature sensor of Claim 19  
wherein said controller comprises a counter for measuring the  
charging times.

22. (Original) The temperature sensor of Claim 19  
wherein said controller comprises at least one driver coupled to  
said thermistor and said at least one resistor for charging said  
capacitor.

23. (Original) The temperature sensor of Claim 22  
wherein said controller further comprises a control logic circuit  
for controlling said at least one driver.

In re Patent Application of:

**VAIL ET AL.**

Serial No. **09/991,559**

Filing Date: **NOVEMBER 9, 2001**

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24. (Original) The temperature sensor of Claim 19 wherein said controller comprises a Schmitt hysteresis device coupled to said capacitor for determining when said capacitor has been charged to the predetermined threshold.

25. (Original) The temperature sensor of Claim 19 wherein said controller is implemented in an ASIC.

Claims 26-32 (Cancelled).

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33. (Currently amended) A method for sensing temperature using a capacitor, ~~and~~ a circuit element having a resistance that varies with temperature, and a plurality of calibration resistors having different resistance values, the method comprising:

sequentially charging the capacitor through the circuit element and each of the calibration resistors;

measuring a respective charging time required to charge the capacitor to a predetermined threshold through the capacitor and each of the calibration resistors; and

determining the temperature based upon the charging ~~time~~ times.

34. (Original) The method of Claim 33 wherein the circuit element comprises a thermistor.

Claims 35 and 36 (Cancelled).

In re Patent Application of:

**VAIL ET AL.**

Serial No. **09/991,559**

Filing Date: **NOVEMBER 9, 2001**

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37. (Original) The method of Claim 33 wherein measuring the charging time comprises measuring the charging time using a counter.

38. (Original) The method of Claim 33 wherein charging the capacitor comprises coupling a driver to the circuit element and charging the capacitor using the driver.

Claims 39-44 (Cancelled).

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and  
45. (New) The temperature sensor of Claim 1 wherein said controller cooperates with said plurality of calibration resistors to determine a capacitance variation of said capacitor, and wherein said controller determines the temperature based upon the charging times and the capacitance variation.

46. (New) The temperature sensor of Claim 1 wherein said controller cooperates with said high and low calibration resistors to determine a capacitance variation of said capacitor, and wherein said controller determines the temperature based upon the charging times and the capacitance variation.

47. (New) The method of Claim 33 further comprising determining a capacitance variation for the capacitor based using the plurality of calibration resistors; and wherein determining comprises determining the temperature based upon the charging times and the capacitance variation.

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